

Attorney Docket No. 010313

REMARKS

In the aforementioned Office Action, claims 1, 3 and 6-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Spaling et al.* (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0077113). Furthermore, claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Spaling et al.* Claims 4-5 and 9-12 were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

By this amendment, claims 1-3 and 6-8 have been canceled without prejudice. The Examiner's rejection on these claims is thereby avoided.

Claims 4 and 9 have been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of their respective base claims as originally filed and any intervening claims. Claim 5 and claims 10-12 are dependent claims, dependent respectively on amended independent claims 4 and 9, are also submitted to be patentable for the same reasons claims 4 and 9 are patentable.

In view of the above amendment, amended claims 4, 5 and 9-12 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and an early allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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